GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:260
ANSWERED ON:15.03.2007
POLICY FOR DESTITUTES AGED PERSONS
Deshmukh Shri Subhash Sureshchandra;Masood Shri Rasheed

Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the total population of the old persons in the country at present, State/UT-wise;

(b) whether there has been an increase in the number of the destitute aged persons in the country;

(c) if so, the steps being taken by the Government to check the above trend in the increase of the destitute persons;

(d) whether the Government has formulated any policy for the medical check-up of the aged persons; and

(e) if so, the details thereof ?

Answer

MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SMT. MEIRA KUMAR)

(a) to (e) A Statement is placed on the Table of the House.

Statement referred to in reply to Part (a) to (e) of the Lok Sabha Starred Question No. 260 for answer on 15.3.2007 regarding Policy for Destitute Aged Persons by Shri Rasheed Masood and Shri Subhash Sureshchandra Deshmukh.

(a to c):The total population of the old persons in the country as per the Census 2001, State/UT wise is given in annexure. There is no authentic data available on the levels of destitution among the aged persons. However, the Government, through the Scheme of `Integrated Programme for Older Persons` is giving grant-in aid to NGOs for establishing and maintaining old age homes, day care centres and mobile medicare units. Further, the Central Government is contributing Rs. 200/- per person per month under the National Old Age Pension Scheme for providing monthly pension to the destitute aged persons.

(d & e):The Government of India has launched a National Rural Health Mission on 12th April 2005. The Mission covers the entire country with special focus on 18 States for providing integrated comprehensive and effective primary healthcare to the poor, vulnerable and marginalized sections of the society including aged persons. In addition, facilities for medical check-up of the aged persons are available at all Government Hospitals and health centres along with the general health care delivery system.